

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIALCOUNTRY Polish-occupied Germany REPORTTOPIC Military Information from Oppeln (Oppeln)EVALUATION                      PLACE OBTAINED                     

619645

DATE OF CONTENT                     DATE OBTAINED                     DATE PREPARED 12 August 1954REFERENCES                     PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)                     REMARKS                     This is UNEVALUATED

1. In about September 1953, Polish troops from Oppeln (P 51/J 17), which, returned from summer field exercises and were unloaded at the Oppeln-East railroad station, marched in review on Kattowitzer Strasse. The soldiers wore khaki-colored uniforms and carried small arms. The review also included 10 to 15 trucks each of which towed a two-wheel artillery piece, ambulances, field kitchens, and a few other trucks. No tanks or heavy weapons were seen. In the fall of 1953, Oppeln was rather heavily occupied by Polish units which were stationed at four large barracks installations. In 1952, tank troops were observed at Oppeln but the occupation changed in 1953. With a few exceptions, the soldiers with blue-grey uniforms had been replaced by troops wearing khaki-colored uniforms with red service color. In the spring of 1953, a signal unit was transferred from Brieg (P 51/H 89) to Oppeln. No Polish headquarters was said to have been in Oppeln.
2. Prior to November 1953, a small Soviet detail was quartered in a building on the northern side of ul. Ozimska (Malapaner Strasse). Soviet officers were seen at the former Finanzamt on the northern side of ul. Kosciuszki (Moltke Strasse) and west of ul. Stalinogrodzka (Kattowitzer Strasse). The installation was guarded by Soviet sentries. Soviet officers and their dependents lived in houses opposite the barracks installation near Stefanshoehe.
3. Prior to November 1953, no KBW units were stationed at Oppeln. For some time, district police wearing khaki-colored uniforms and yellow cap bands and equipped with highway patrol                      at Oppeln, which also is capital of the                      employed in case of riots or other disturbances.
4. Polish labor service (SP) units were quartered in a cantonment at Groschowitz (P 51/J 27). The installation had newly constructed sections and was located south of the cement works. The SP members were employed at the Groschowitz and Sakrau cement works. About 160 men rode to Sakrau on trucks.
5. Prior to the fall of 1953, the units at Oppeln received supplies from the former German supply depot northwest of the Halbendorf (P 51/J 17) cemetery. The installation was rebuilt and included a new elevator which was constructed in 1953. Fuel was delivered by a depot on the east side of the Oder River harbor.

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6. In the fall of 1953, the military class of 1933 was inducted. Except for extra allowances for children, no other financial aid was paid by the Polish Government to dependents of married inductees during their term of service.

[REDACTED] Comment. Polish tank troops and mechanized troops, that is the bulk of the 10th Mech Div, were observed at Oppeln until the winter and summer 1952. [REDACTED] Oppeln was all [REDACTED] in the fall of 1952, it is believed [REDACTED] change of the occupation in Oppeln is correct. [REDACTED] Information obtained in the fall of 1952 indicated that, after termination of the field exercises in the fall of 1953, it was planned to transfer the 35th Inf Regt and the engineer battalion of the 7th Inf Div from Neisse to another post, probably to Oppeln. Definite conclusions on a transfer of troops in the fall of 1953 cannot be drawn.

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